



**MERSEYSIDE DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE SERVICE**
creating a safer community



RECRUITMENT

Candidate Job Pack

Senior Domestic Abuse Independent Practitioner (Senior DAIP)

Merseyside Domestic Violence Service

A future free from domestic abuse.

Welcome to MDVS

MDVS (Merseyside Domestic Violence Service) is a grassroots charity serving vulnerable families in Liverpool and on Merseyside.

MDVS improve the lives of women and girls, children and young people through education, empowerment and prevention, MDVS tackles the root causes of domestic abuse and works to inform, innovate and create change.

We provide aftercare support and work with people who come to us to innovate, evolve and improve safety. Our integrated approach combines services for women and girls with behaviour-change work for men and those concerned about their behaviour, with the overall aim of keeping women and children safe.

This candidate pack

This pack gives an overview of the Senior DAIP role, the qualities and experience we are looking for, the recruitment process and how to apply.

Mission, Vision and Values

Mission

To tackle domestic abuse through education and by supporting those affected to improve their lives.

Vision

To work collaboratively to end domestic abuse, change attitudes and drive forward national policy.

Values

Supportive

We support people who come to us, those we work with and the wider community in a non-judgemental, encouraging and caring way.

Inclusive

We are committed to whole-family, accessible and inclusive services, including people who are hard to reach and people from all communities.

Empower

We empower people affected by domestic abuse and the wider community through consistent support, awareness raising and challenging misconceptions.

Innovative

We continually evolve new ways to provide services that meet need, bringing experience and professionalism to all we do.

Job Details

Role	Senior Domestic Abuse Independent Practitioner (Senior DAIP)
Salary	£31,000 - £33,000 per annum, dependent on experience and demonstrated specialist competence
Recruitment incentive	£2,000 payable following successful completion of the six-month probationary period
Hours	Full-time, 37 hours per week
Contract	Permanent
Location	Liverpool
Travel	Regular travel across Merseyside, including home and community visits
Responsible to	Team Manager
DBS	Enhanced DBS required
Annual leave	28 days excluding public bank holidays
Pension	3% contribution
Probation	Six months

Recruitment incentive

The £2,000 recruitment incentive is separate from contractual salary and payable following successful completion of probation, subject to scheme terms and normal statutory deductions.

Role Overview

The Senior DAIP will provide high-quality specialist advocacy to women and children experiencing domestic abuse. The postholder will work intensively to increase safety in the home and community, keep survivor voice at the heart of decision-making and focus on disrupting the behaviour and access of the person causing harm.

What makes this a senior role?

This is a senior practitioner role. The postholder will not simply carry a larger caseload - they will provide expertise, guidance and practice leadership to strengthen work across the team.

Practice leadership

Provide day-to-day practice guidance, consultation and support to colleagues.

Complex decision-making

Use advanced professional judgement in complex, high-risk and sensitive cases.

Influence and representation

Represent MDVS within multi-agency settings and influence coordinated responses.

Quality and improvement

Contribute to meeting contractual expectations set by funders/commissioners, contribute to case review, audit, service development and continuous improvement.

Accountability

Model high-quality, defensible practice and support consistent standards across the team.

Key Responsibilities

- Manage and support a specialist DAIP caseload, including complex and higher-risk cases.
- Deliver high-quality advocacy, safety planning and professional judgement in complex cases.
- Support survivors and children through safeguarding, housing, criminal justice and family-court processes.
- Work closely with police, housing, children's services and other partners to coordinate safe responses.
- Represent MDVS within MARAC, court processes, multi-agency meetings and strategic partnerships.
- Provide case consultation, reflective support and practice guidance to colleagues.
- Support consistent standards of recording, safeguarding, information-sharing and risk management.
- Contribute to service development, training, quality assurance and continuous improvement.
- Uphold MDVS values and maintain a survivor-centred, empowering approach.

Practice focus

The Senior DAIP role is about practice expertise, quality, judgement and safe coordination - not simply a larger caseload.

Person Specification

Knowledge, Experience and Qualifications

Essential

- Significant specialist domestic abuse advocacy or casework experience.
- Experience managing complex and high-risk domestic abuse cases.
- Strong knowledge of domestic abuse, coercive control and post-separation abuse.
- Experience of risk assessment, safety planning and dynamic risk management.
- Experience working with victim-survivors in home or community settings.
- Experience working with police, housing, children's services and statutory agencies.
- Strong safeguarding knowledge and practice.
- Strong advocacy and multi-agency working experience.
- Accredited IDVA or equivalent specialist domestic abuse qualification/experience.
- Experience of MARAC or other multi-agency risk-management processes.

Desirable

- Knowledge or experience of stalking and technology-facilitated abuse.
- Experience of perpetrator-focused intervention or disruption.
- Experience of case audit, quality assurance or service evaluation.
- Experience of mentoring or coaching practitioners.
- Experience of Family Court/private law children proceedings.
- Training in domestic abuse-related suicide prevention.
- Relevant degree or professional qualification.

Skills and Working Arrangements

Essential skills and personal attributes

- Excellent professional judgement and analytical skills.
- Strong risk assessment and safety-planning skills.
- Excellent written and verbal communication.
- Highly effective advocacy skills.
- Ability to remain calm under pressure and manage competing priorities.
- Confidence working with police, safeguarding, housing and other statutory agencies.
- Ability to provide constructive professional challenge and escalate concerns where necessary.
- Ability to work independently and support colleagues with complex casework.
- Compassionate, empathetic and non-judgemental approach.
- Strong professional boundaries, reflective practice and commitment to inclusive practice.

Working arrangements

This role operates through a combination of community and home-based practice, work from MDVS premises, multi-agency meetings and remote administrative activity where appropriate. Hybrid working may be available according to service requirements.

The postholder must be able to travel independently across Merseyside and between community locations. A full UK driving licence and access to a vehicle is desirable.

How to Apply

Application

Please send:

- An up to date CV (maximum 2 pages).
- A supporting statement (maximum 2 pages) explaining why you are interested in the role and how you meet the requirements.

Email your application to: info@mdvs.org

For an informal conversation about the role, contact us on 07802 722703 or email info@mdvs.org

Recruitment timeline

Closing date

16th September 2026

Shortlisting

From 17th September 2026. Candidates selected for interview by 18th September.

Interviews

In person at a Liverpool location on 22nd and 23rd September. Interviews will last approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Safer recruitment and accessibility

Appointment is subject to satisfactory references, right-to-work checks and other safer-recruitment requirements. MDVS is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from suitably qualified people. Reasonable adjustments are available throughout the recruitment process.

Together, we support. Together, we empower. Together, we change lives.